Information Item

Definition and Relationship of Student Headcount, Student Full Time Equivalent (FTE) and Student Credit Hour (SCH)

Definition

Headcount – The number of students taking courses; one student taking one course or many courses totals one headcount.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE) – For undergraduate students, the FTE equals the total number student credit hours divided by 12 hours (per semester) or 24 hours (annually). For graduate students, the FTE equals the total number of student credit hours divided by 9 hours (per semester) or 18 hours (annually). FTE is used to determine the tuition revenue budget for regular term.

Student Credit Hours (SCH) – Courses are assigned credit hours based on the amount of instruction and related coursework. One credit hour typically represents the equivalent of an hour of instruction per student per week. Student credit hours are used to determine the tuition revenue for distance education.

Average Annual Full Time Equivalent (AAFTE) – This is the average of fall student FTE and spring student FTE.

Relationship

These are the relationships across the total population.

Regular Term

1 Headcount = 0.87 FTE
1 Headcount = 24.6 SCH
1 FTE = 27.97 SCH
1 FTE = 1.16 Headcount

Distance Education

1 Headcount = 29.53 SCH

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